

Maryland Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 25, 1996, at the Omni Hotel, 101 W. Fayette Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201. The purpose of the meeting is to choose a project topic and plan a project for fiscal year 1996.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Dr. Chester L. Wickwire, 410-825-8949, or Edward Darden, Acting Director of the Eastern Regional Office, 202-376-7533 (TDD 202-376-8116). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least five (5) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, December 14, 1995.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.
[FR Doc. 95-31071 Filed 12-20-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Texas Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Texas Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 2:00 p.m. and adjourn at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, January 26, 1996, at the La Mansion Del Rio Hotel, San Maguel Room, 112 College Street, San Antonio, Texas 78205. The purpose of the meeting is to plan for future projects and hear presentations on civil rights issues.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Adolph Canales, 214-653-6779, or Philip Montez, Director of the Western Regional Office, 213-894-3437 (TDD 213-894-0508). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least five (5) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, December 11, 1995.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.
[FR Doc. 95-31061 Filed 12-20-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Weather Service Modernization and Associated Restructuring

ACTION: Notice and opportunity for public comment.

SUMMARY: The National Weather Service (NWS) is publishing proposed certifications for the proposed consolidations of:

- (1) Residual New York City Weather Service Office (WSO) into the future New York City and Philadelphia Weather Forecast Offices (WFO);
- (2) Providence WSO into the future Boston WFO;
- (3) Worcester WSO into the future Boston WFO;
- (4) residual Kansas City WSO into the future Kansas City/Pleasant Hill WFO;
- (5) Detroit WSO into the future Detroit WFO;
- (6) Concordia WSO into the future Topeka, Wichita, and Hastings WFOs;
- (7) West Palm Beach WSO into the future Miami and Melbourne WFOs;
- (8) Daytona Beach WSO into the future Melbournes and Jacksonville WFOs;
- (9) Waco WSO into the future Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston/Galveston WFOs;
- (10) Beaumont/Port Arthur WSO into the future Lake Charles and Shreveport WFOs;
- (11) Knoxville WSO into the future Knoxville and Nashville WFOs;
- (12) Havre WSO into the future Great Falls and Missoula WFOs; and
- (13) Helena WSO into the future Great Falls WFO.

In accordance with Public Law 102-567, the public will have 60 days in which to comment on these proposed consolidation certifications.

DATES: Comments are requested by February 20, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the proposed consolidation packages should be sent to Janet Gilmer, Room 12316, 1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, telephone 301-713-0276. All comments should be sent to Janet Gilmer at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Scanlon at 301-713-1413.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NWS anticipates consolidating:

- (1) the residual New York City Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future New York City and Philadelphia Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs);
- (2) the Providence WSO with the future Boston WFO;
- (3) the Worcester WSO with the future Boston WFO;
- (4) the residual Kansas City WSO with the future Kansas City/Pleasant Hill WFO;
- (5) the Detroit WSO with the future Detroit WFO;
- (6) the Concordia WSO with the future Topeka, Wichita, and Hastings WFOs;
- (7) the West Palm Beach WSO with the future Miami and Melbourne WFOs;
- (8) the Daytona Beach WSO with the future Melbourne and Jacksonville WFOs;
- (9) the Waco WSO with the future Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston/Galveston WFOs;
- (10) the Beaumont/Port Arthur WSO with the future Lake Charles and Shreveport WFOs;
- (11) the Knoxville WSO with the future Knoxville and Nashville WFOs;
- (12) the Havre WSO with the future Great Falls and Missoula WFOs; and
- (13) the Helena WSO with the future Great Falls WFO. In accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567, the Secretary of Commerce must certify that these consolidations will not result in any degradation of service to the affected areas of responsibility and must publish the proposed consolidation certifications in the FR. The documentation supporting each proposed certification includes the following:
 - (1) a draft memorandum by the meteorologist-in-charge recommending the certification, the final of which will be endorsed by the Regional Director and the Assistant Administrator of the NWS if appropriate, after consideration of public comments and completion of consultation with the Modernization Transition Committee (the Committee);
 - (2) a description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns which affect the weather services provided within the service area;
 - (3) a comparison of the services provided within the service area and the services to be provided after such action;
 - (4) a description of any recent or expected modernization of NWS operation which will enhance services in the service area;
 - (5) an identification of any area within the affected service area which

would not receive coverage (at an elevation of 10,000 feet) by the next generation weather radar network;

(6) evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernization NWS operations, which was considered in reaching the conclusion that no degradation in service will result from such action including the WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Report(s) User Confirmation of Services Report(s), and the Decommissioning Readiness Report (as applicable); and

(7) a letter appointing the liaison officer.

These proposed certifications do not include any report of the Committee which could be submitted in accordance with sections 706(b)(6) and 707(c) of Pub. Law 102-567. At its December 14, 1995 meeting the Committee concluded that the information presented did not reveal any potential degradation of service and decided not to issue a report.

Documentation supporting the proposed certifications is too voluminous to publish in its entirety. Copies of the supporting documentation can be obtained through the contact listed above.

Attached to this Notice are draft memoranda by the respective meteorologists-in-charge recommending the certifications.

Once all public comments have been received and considered, the NWS will complete consultation with the Committee and determine whether to proceed with the final certifications. If decisions to certify are made, the Secretary of Commerce must publish the final certifications in the FR and transmit the certifications to the appropriate Congressional committees prior to consolidating the offices.

Dated: December 15, 1995.

Louis J. Boezi,
Deputy Assistant Administrator for Modernization.

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Weather Service

175 Brookhaven Avenue, Building NWS-1,
Upton, NY 11973

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing
From:

Michael E. Wyllie, AM/MIC NWSFO New York City
Chet Henriksen, AM/MIC NWSFO Philadelphia, PA
Peter Ahnert, MIC NWSO Binghamton, NY
Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my

professional judgement, consolidation of the Residual New York City Weather Service Office (RWSO) with the future New York City and Philadelphia Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the New York City service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the New York City service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future New York City and Philadelphia WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the New York City service area from the Residual New York City WSO location and a list of services to be provided from the future New York City and Philadelphia WFO locations after the proposed consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the RWSO New York City Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO New York City Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the RWSO New York City service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for New York and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the New York City service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service:

A. The WSR-88D RADAR Commissioning Reports from New York City, Philadelphia and Binghamton, attachment E validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS

forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed but two national work-arounds remain in effect. Note: Binghamton, NY is used as a backup but no Residual New York City services were transferred to Binghamton.

B. The User Confirmation of Services from New York City, Philadelphia and Binghamton, attachment F, document that three negative comments were received from New York City, Philadelphia and Binghamton related to the RWSO New York City service area. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the users as reflected in the reports.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing New York City WSR-57 radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the New York City service area is included at attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (attachment I) and the _____ public comments received during the comment period (attachment J). On _____, the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing

Date

Attachments

October 3, 1995.

Memorandum For: W/ER—John T. Forsing
From: Robert M. Thompson, NWSFO Boston
AM/MIC
Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgment, consolidation of the Providence Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Boston Weather Forecast Office (WFO) located in Taunton, MA, will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Providence service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and

application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the Providence service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the Boston WFO will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Providence service area from the Providence WSO location and a list of services to be provided from the Boston WFO location after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO Providence Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Boston Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Providence service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Rhode Island is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Providence service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service.

A. The WSR-88D RADAR Commissioning Report, attachment E, validates that the WSR-88D meets technical specifications (acceptance test); is fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed. There were two national work-arounds. One of these has been satisfied while the other one remains in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services, attachment F, documents that several responses required explanation. This included two negative comments. Two other responses expressed concern over the new radar. Telephone calls were placed to the four responders and their comments and concerns were addressed. All four responders are now satisfied with our service, as stated in the Confirmation of Services Report.

C. The Providence Weather Service Office does not have a network or local warning radar.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Providence service area is included as attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (Committee) (attachment I) and the _____ public comments received during the comment period (attachment J). On _____ the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing

Date

Attachments

October 3, 1995.

Memorandum for: W/ER—John T. Forsing

From: Robert M. Thompson, NWSTFO

Boston AM/MIC

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, consolidation of the Worcester Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Boston Weather Forecast Office (WFO) located in Taunton, MA, will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Worcester service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the Worcester service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the NWSFO Boston will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Worcester service area from the Worcester WSO location and a list of services to be provided from the NWSFO Boston location after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO Worcester Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Boston Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Worcester service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for southern New England including central and west central Massachusetts is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Worcester service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service.

A. The WSR-88D RADAR Commissioning Report, attachment E, validates that the WSR-88D meets technical specifications (acceptance test); is fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed. There were two national work-arounds. One of these has been satisfied while the other one remains in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services, attachment F, documents that several responses required explanation. This included two negative comments. Two other responses expressed concern over the new radar. Telephone calls were placed to the four responders and their comments and concerns were addressed. All four responders are now satisfied without service, as stated in the Confirmation of Services Report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verified that the existing Worcester local warning WSR-74C radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Worcester service area is included as attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (Committee) (attachment I) and the _____ public comments received during the comment period (attachment J). On _____ the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, John T. Forsing, Director, Eastern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

John T. Forsing

Date

Attachments

1803 North 7 Highway, Pleasant Hill, MO 64080

October 27, 1995.

Memorandum for: Richard P. Augulis,
Director, Central Region

From: Lynn P. Maximuk, MIC NWSO Kansas City/Pleasant Hill

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

In December 1993 a change of operations occurred when most personnel and most services provided by the WSO at Kansas City International Airport were transferred to the future WFO site in Pleasant Hill, Missouri. At that time a Residual Weather Service Office (RWSO) was left at the airport site to continue the surface and radar observational programs. Since that time the Kansas City International Airport ASOS has been commissioned, and the WSR-57 radar has been decommissioned.

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, that consolidation of the Kansas City Residual Weather Service Office (RWSO) with the future Kansas City/Pleasant Hill Weather Forecast Office (FWO) in Pleasant Hill, Missouri will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Kansas City service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the pre-modernized Kansas City service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Kansas City/Pleasant Hill WFO will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided from the Kansas City RWSO location and a list of comparable services to be provided from the future Kansas City/Pleasant Hill WFO location after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the pre-modernized WSO Kansas City area of responsibility (i.e., "affected service area") and the future WFO Kansas City/Pleasant Hill area of responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service

(NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Kansas City service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e., ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Kansas and Missouri is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Kansas City service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service:

A. The WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Report, attachment E, validates that the WSR-88D meets technical specifications (acceptance test); is fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed but two national workarounds remain in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services, attachment F, documents that all comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the commentors as stated in the service Confirmation Report. Three of the commentors had concerns about the automated coded radar observation product (ROB). They were specifically concerned about the lack of movement speed and direction, and the inclusion of AP in the reports. We have discussed these problems with those people and they are satisfied that the NWS is working toward a solution. These three users have stated that those limitations do not diminish the capabilities of the WSR-88D from providing superior radar information through their video feeds. An emergency management agency responded negatively due to the cost of obtaining a NIDS drop. They have since completed negotiations with a NIDS vendor to receive the WSR-88D data. Four other respondents had negative responses but followed with comments not directly related to the WSR-88D. Those comments dealt with inadequate NWR coverage and other NWS products or services.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing Kansas City WSR-57 radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Kansas City service area is included as attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (attachment I) and the _____ public comments received during the comment period (attachment J). On _____, the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the

satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, Richard P. Augulis, Director, Central Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Richard P. Augulis

Date

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

9200 White Lake Rd White Lake, MI 48386

October 25, 1995.

Memorandum for: Richard P. Augulis,
Director, Central Region

From: Dean P. Gulezian, MIC, WSFO DTX

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, consolidation of the Detroit Weather Service Offices (WSO) with the future Detroit Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in White Lake, Michigan will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Detroit service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the Detroit service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from future Detroit WFO will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services traditionally provided within the Detroit service area from the Detroit WSO location and a list of services to be provided from the future Detroit WFO location after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO Detroit area of responsibility (i.e., "affected service area") and the future WFO Detroit area of responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Detroit service area is

included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Michigan is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Detroit service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service:

A. The WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Report, attachment E, validates that the WSR-88D meets technical specifications (acceptance test); is fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed but two national work-arounds remain in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services, attachment F, documents that three negative comments were received. All comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the commentors as stated in the service Confirmation Report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing Detroit WSR-74S radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Detroit service area is included at attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (attachment I) and the _____ public comments received during the comment period (attachment J). On _____, the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, Richard P. Augulis, Director, Central Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Richard P. Augulis

Date

Memorandum for: Richard P. Augulis,
Director, Central Region.

From:

Curtis S. Holderbach, MIC (AM) NWSFRO
Topeka, KS

Richard H. Elder, MIC, NWSO Wichita, KS
Steven D. Schurr, MIC, NWSO Hastings,
NE

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, we have determined in our professional judgment, consolidation of the Concordia Weather Service Office (WSO)

with the future Topeka, Wichita, and Hastings Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Concordia service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, we are recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

Our recommendation is based on our review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the Concordia service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, we find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Topeka, Wichita, and Hastings WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Concordia service area from the Concordia WSO location and a list of services to be provided from the future Topeka, Wichita, and Hastings WFO locations after the proposed consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO Concordia Area of Responsibility (i.e., "Affected Service Area") and the future Topeka, Wichita and Hastings WFOs' Areas of Responsibility. As discussed below, we find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Concordia service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e., ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Kansas and portions of surrounding areas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Concordia service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service:

A. The WSR-88D RADAR Commissioning Reports from Topeka, Wichita, and Hastings, attachment E validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly;

a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed but two national work-arounds remain in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services from Topeka, Wichita, and Hastings, attachment F, document that no negative comments were received from Topeka, seven negative comments were received from Wichita, and one negative comment from Hastings. All negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the commentors as reflected in the reports.

c. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing Concordia WSR-74C radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Concordia service area is included as attachment H.

We have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (attachment I) and the _____, public comments received during the comment period (attachment J). On _____, the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment K). We believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and we continue to recommend this certification.

4Endorsement

I, Richard P. Augulis, Director, Central Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Richard P. Augulis

Date

Attachments

Weather Service Forecast Office

11691 S.W. 17 Street, Miami, FL 33165-2149

Memorandum for: Harry S. Hassel, Director,
Southern Region

From:

Paul J. Hebert, AM/MIC, Miami, FL

Bart Hagemeyer, MIC, Melbourne, FL

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, consolidation of the West Palm Beach Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Miami and Melbourne Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the West Palm Beach service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and

application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the West Palm Beach service area is included as Attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns by the Miami and Melbourne WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the West Palm Beach service area from the West Palm Beach location and a list of services to be provided from the Miami and Melbourne WFO locations after consolidation is included in Attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO West Palm Area of Responsibility (i.e., "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Miami Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO West Palm Beach service area is included as Attachment C. The new technology (i.e., ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Florida is included as Attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the specific service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service.

A. The WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Reports for NWSO Melbourne, Attachment E-1, and NWSFO Miami, Attachment E-2, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed but two national work-arounds remain in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services, Attachments F-1 and F-2, document that only one negative comment was received for the Miami WSR-88D. The negative comment has been answered to the satisfaction of the commenter as stated in the service Confirmation Report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, Attachment G, verifies that the existing West Palm Beach WSR-74S radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the West Palm Beach service area is included as Attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (Committee) (Attachment I) and the _____ public comments received during the comment period (Attachment J). On _____, the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (Attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, Harry S. Hassel, Director, Southern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Harry S. Hassel

Date

Attachments

Memorandum for: Harry S. Hassel, Director
Southern Region

From: Bart Hagemeyer, MIC, NWSO
Melbourne, FL; Steve Letro, MIC, NWSO
Jacksonville, FL

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation
Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, consolidation of the Daytona Beach Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Melbourne and Jacksonville Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Daytona Beach service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the Daytona Beach service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from Melbourne and Jacksonville WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Daytona Beach service area from the Daytona Beach WSO location and a list of services to be provided from the Melbourne and Jacksonville WFO locations after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO Daytona Beach Area of Responsibility (i.e. Affected Service Area) and the future WFO Melbourne Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, I find

that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations that will enhance services in the WSO Daytona Beach service area are included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Florida is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the specific service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service.

A. The WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Reports, attachment E, validate that the Melbourne and Jacksonville WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed, but two national work-arounds remain in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services reports, attachment F, document that no negative comments were received from the WSO Daytona Beach service area.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing Daytona Beach WSR-57 radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Daytona Beach service area is included as attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (Committee) (attachment I) and the _____ public comment(s) received during the comment period (attachment J).

On _____, the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, Harry S. Hassel, Director, Southern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Harry S. Hassel

Date

Attachments

Memorandum for: Harry S. Hassel, Director
Southern Region

From:
Gifford Ely, MIC, NWSFO Dallas/Fort
Worth, TX

Bill Read, MIC, NWSO Houston/Galveston, TX

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, consolidation of the Waco Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston/Galveston Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Waco service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the Waco service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston/Galveston WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Waco service area from the Waco WSO location and a list of services to be provided from the future Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston/Galveston WFO locations after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO Waco Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Dallas/Fort Worth Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Waco service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Texas is included as attachment D. The combination NWS and DOD operational radar coverage for the specific service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service.

A. The WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Reports for NWSFO Dallas/Fort Worth and

NWSFO Houston/Galveston, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed but two national work-arounds remain in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services for Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston/Galveston, attachment F, document that one negative comment was received from both the Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston/Galveston Radar Service Confirmations related to the WSO Waco Service Area. These negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the commentors as stated in the two attached Radar Service Confirmation Reports.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, verifies that the existing Waco WSR-74 radar is no longer needed to support services or products for local office operations.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Waco service area is included as attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (Committee) (attachment I) and the () public comments received during the comment period (attachment J). On (), the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, Harry S. Hassel, Director, Southern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Harry S. Hassel

Date

Attachments

Memorandum for: Harry S. Hassel, Director, Southern Region

From:

David C. McIntosh, MIC, NWSO Lake Charles, LA

Lee Harrison, MIC, NWSO Shreveport, LA

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, that consolidation of the Beaumont/Port Arthur Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Lake Charles and Shreveport Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Beaumont/Port Arthur service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in

accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the Beaumont/Port Arthur service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from future WFOs Lake Charles and Shreveport will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Beaumont/Port Arthur service area from WSO Beaumont/Port Arthur and a list of services to be provided from the future WFO Lake Charles and Shreveport locations after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO Beaumont/Port Arthur Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Lake Charles Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Beaumont/Port Arthur service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Texas is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the specific service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernization NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service.

A. The WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Reports for NWSO Lake Charles and Shreveport, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88D meets technical specifications (acceptance test); is fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment, along with trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed but two national work-arounds remain in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services for NWSO Lake Charles and Shreveport, attachment F, documents that two negative comments were received from NWSO Lake

Charles. However, neither of the negative comments came from the Beaumont/Port Arthur service area. The negative comments were addressed and answered to the satisfaction of the users as stated in the Service Confirmation Report.

C. The Decommissioning Readiness Report, attachment G, has already been approved and the WSR-57 radar has been decommissioned.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Beaumont/Port Arthur service area is included as attachment H.

I have maintained a close association with the emergency management community in southeast Texas and they have all expressed appreciation for the improved warning services they have received.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (Committee) (Attachment I) and the _____ public comments received during the comment period (Attachment J). On _____, the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (Attachment K). I have tried to answer all negative comments and responses to the satisfaction of our customers and, based upon their later actions and comments, I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, Harry S. Hassel, Director, Southern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Harry S. Hassel

Date

Attachments

Memorandum for:

Harry S. Hassel, Director, Southern Region, NWS

From:

Jerry O. McDuffie, MIC, NWSO Knoxville/Tri-Cities, TN

Derrel R. Martin, MIC, NWSO Nashville, TN

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, that consolidation of the Knoxville Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Knoxville/Tri-Cities and Nashville Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Knoxville area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advanced notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns

affecting the weather services provided in the Knoxville service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Knoxville/Tri-Cities and Nashville WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the service currently provided within the Knoxville service area from the WSO Knoxville location and a list of services to be provided from the future Knoxville/Tri-Cities and Nashville WFO locations after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. The enclosed map shows the WSO Knoxville service area and the future WFO Knoxville/Tri-Cities service area. As discussed below, I submit that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Knoxville service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned WSR-88D radar coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for east Tennessee is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the specific service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service.

A. The WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Reports for NWSO Knoxville/Tri-Cities and NWSO Nashville, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment, along with trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed; but, two national work-arounds remain in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services for Knoxville/Tri-Cities and Nashville, attachment F, document that only one (1) negative comment was received. Followup with Monroe County indicates the main concern was NOAA Weather Radio coverage from the Chattanooga transmitter in regard to warnings, not really the WSR-88D. The County Director of EMA stated on October 17, 1995, after several months of evaluation, that the radar coverage and service to Monroe County is very good. Several positive comments were given.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Knoxville service area is included as attachment G.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (Committee) (attachment H) and the _____ public comments received

during the comment period (attachment I). On _____, the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment j). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certifications.

Endorsement

I, Harry S. Hassel, Director, Southern Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Harry S. Hassel

Date

Attachments

Memorandum for: Thomas D. Potter, Director, Western Region

From: Kenneth Mielke, AM/MIC, NWSFO Great Falls, MT

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgement, consolidation of the Havre Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Great Falls Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will not result in any degradation in weather services to the Havre service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application of the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the Havre service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Great Falls WFO will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Havre service area from the Havre WSO location and a list of services to be provided from the future Great Falls WFO after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO Havre Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area"), and the future WFO Great Falls Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Havre service area is

included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Montana is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Havre service area will be increased and no area will be missed in coverage.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service.

A. The WSR-88D RADAR Commissioning Report, attachment E, validates that the WSR-88D meets technical specifications (acceptance test); is fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed but, two national work-arounds remain in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services, attachment F, documents that three negative comments were received, but none impacted the WSO Havre service area. These negative comments were answered to the satisfaction of the commentors, as stated in the service Confirmation Report.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Havre service area is included as attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (Committee) (attachment I) and the _____ public comments received during the comment period (attachment J). On _____ the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, Thomas D. Potter, Director, Western Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Thomas D. Potter

Date

Attachments

Memorandum for: Thomas D. Potter,
Director, Western Region

From:

Kenneth Mielke, AM/MIC, NWSFO Great Falls, MT

Brenda Brock, MIC, NWSO Missoula, MT

Subject: Recommendation for Consolidation Certification

After reviewing the attached documentation, I have determined, in my professional judgment, consolidation of the Helena Weather Service Office (WSO) with the future Great Falls Weather Forecast Office (WFO) and the Missoula Weather Forecast Office will not result in any degradation in

weather services to the Helena service area. This proposed certification is in accordance with the advance notification provided in the National Implementation Plan. Accordingly, I am recommending you approve this action in accordance with section 706 of Public Law 102-567. If you concur, please endorse this recommendation and forward this package to the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services for final certification. If Dr. Friday approves, he will forward the certification to the Secretary for approval and transmittal to Congress.

My recommendation is based on my review of the pertinent evidence and application for the modernization criteria for consolidation of a field office. In summary:

1. A description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns affecting the weather services provided in the Helena service area is included as attachment A. As discussed below, I find that providing the services which address these characteristics and concerns from the future Great Falls and Missoula WFOs will not degrade these services.

2. A detailed list of the services currently provided within the Helena service area from the Helena WSO location and a list of services to be provided from the future Great Falls and Missoula WFO locations after consolidation is included as attachment B. Comparison of these services shows that all services currently provided will continue to be provided after the proposed consolidation. Also, the enclosed map shows the WSO Helena Area of Responsibility (i.e. "Affected Service Area") and the future WFO Great Falls Area of Responsibility. As discussed below, I find that there will be no degradation in the quality of these services as a result of the consolidation.

3. A description of the recent or expected modernization of National Weather Service (NWS) operations which will enhance services in the WSO Helena service area is included as attachment C. The new technology (i.e. ASOS, WSR-88D, and AWIPS) has or will be installed and will enhance services.

4. A map showing planned NEXRAD coverage at an elevation of 10,000 feet for Montana is included as attachment D. NWS operational radar coverage for the Helena service area will be increased.

5. The following evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, played a key role in concluding there will be no degradation of service.

A. The WSR-88D RADAR Commissioning Reports for Great Falls and Missoula, attachment E, validate that the WSR-88Ds meet technical specifications (acceptance test); are fully operational (satisfactory operation of system interfaces and satisfactory support of associated NWS forecasting and warning services); service backup capabilities are functioning properly; a full set of operations and maintenance documentation is available; and spare parts and test equipment and trained operations and maintenance personnel are available on site. Training was completed but, two national work-arounds remain in effect.

B. The User Confirmation of Services for NWSFO Great Falls and NWSO Missoula,

attachment F, document that only three negative comments were received from Great Falls. All three of the negative comments have been answered to the satisfaction of the commentors, as stated in the service Confirmation Report. Two negative comments were received from Missoula and both were answered to the satisfaction of the commentors.

6. A memorandum assigning the liaison officer for the Helena service area is included as attachment H.

I have considered recommendations of the Modernization Transition Committee (Committee) (attachment I) and the _____ public comments received during the comments period (attachment J). On _____ the Committee voted to endorse the proposed consolidation (attachment K). I believe all negative comments have been addressed to the satisfaction of our customers and I continue to recommend this certification.

Endorsement

I, Thomas D. Potter, Director, Western Region, endorse this consolidation certification.

Thomas D. Potter

Date

Attachments

[FR Doc. 95-30987 Filed 12-20-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-M

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Announcement of Import Restraint Limits for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Qatar

December 15, 1995.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs establishing limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Heinzen, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port or call (202) 927-5850. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; section 204 of the